



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/821,327	03/29/2001	Toru Sasaki	PW 0245676 H7432US	2287

7590

05/27/2004

Pillsbury Winthrop LLP  
Intellectual Property Group  
Suite 2800  
725 South Figueroa Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90017-5406

EXAMINER

KOVALICK, VINCENT E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2673

DATE MAILED: 05/27/2004

11

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/821,327

Applicant(s)

SASAKI, TORU

Examiner

Vincent E Kovalick

Art Unit

2673

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 March 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 2-12 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Amendment*

1. This Office Action is in response to Applicant's Amendment dated March 15, 2004 in response to USPTO Office Action dated September 11, 2003. The amendments to claims 1-4 and 6; the addition of new claims 7-12 and Applicant's remarks have been reviewed and entered in the record.

Applicant's remarks relative to claim 1 regarding the applicability of Tanaka to the teachings of claim 1 is rendered moot in light of the amendment to claim 1 and the introduction of a new prior art used in the rejection of claim 1.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujimoto (USP 5,473,348) taken with Matsumoto (USP 5,929,839) in view of San et al. (US 2002/0050999). Relative to claim 1, Fujimoto **teaches** apparatus and method of controlling paging unit of coprocessor built in display control system (col. 2, lines 66-67; col. 3, lines 1-67; col. 4, lines 1-21 and col. 11, lines 12-19); Fujimoto further **teaches** a display control apparatus comprising: a video memory for storing color data, which are use to designate colors for displayed dots,

Art Unit: 2673

palette data for use in conversion of the color data and address data representing addresses of the color data and the palette data (col. 7, lines 24-30). It being known to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the address data would have to be associated with the color data and palette data in a video memory, in order to be able to address said data for processing. Still further, Fujimoto **teaches** a first video memory controller for reading the palette data from the video memory in accordance with the address data (col. 7, line 24-30); in addition, Fujimoto **teaches** second video memory controller (the display control system, col. 5, lines 2-5 and 53-65) for reading the color data from the video memory in accordance with the address data, so that read color data are subjected to conversion on the color palette memory in accordance with the palette data (col. 7, lines 24-41).

Fujimoto **does not teach** an output circuit for outputting either the color data read from the video memory or converted color data output from the color palette memory to a display, wherein if present address data designating present palette data match with previous address data designating previous palette data, the first video memory controller does not write the present palette data to the color palette memory, and wherein if present address data designating present palette data does not match with previous address data designating previous palette data, the first video memory controller writes the present palette data to replace the content of the color palette memory.

Fujimoto teaches a processing system having a central processing unit (CPU), a system memory for storing color data, a video memory for storing an image data, and display controller means for displaying the image data stored by the video memory on a system display.

Matsumoto **teaches** an image display control apparatus (col. 1, lines 31-67; col. 2, lines 1-67 and col. 3, lines 1-28); Matsumoto further **teaches** an output circuit for outputting either the color data read from the video memory or converted color data output from the color palette memory to a display (col. 7, lines 26-40).

Art Unit: 2673

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide to the device as taught by Fujimoto the feature as taught by Matsumoto in order to put in place circuit means for generating the control and color data signal to drive the system display device.

Fujimoto taken Matsumoto **does not teach** the display control apparatus wherein if present address data designating present palette data match with previous address data designating previous palette data, the first video memory controller does not write the present palette data to the color palette memory, , and wherein if present address data designating present palette data does not match with previous address data designating previous palette data, the first video memory controller writes the present palette data to replace the content of the color palette memory.

Fujimoto taken Matsumoto teaches a processing system having a central processing unit (CPU), a system memory for storing color data, a video memory for storing an image data, and display controller means for display the image data stored by the video memory on a display; with the means to provide image processing that performs fast switching between color palettes and generates the signals to drive the system display device.

San et al. **teaches** an external memory system having programmable graphics processor for use in a video game system (pg. 1, paras. 0003-0009); San et al. further **teaches**; if present address data designating present palette data match with previous address data designating previous palette data, the first video memory controller does not write the present palette data to the color palette memory, and wherein if present address data designating present palette data does not match with previous address data designating previous palette data, the first video memory controller writes the present palette data to replace the content of the color palette memory. (pg. 19, para. 0256).

Art Unit: 2673

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide to the device as taught by Fujimoto taken with Matsumoto the feature as taught by San et al. in order to include in the display control system the means to do and address compare in order to avoid writing the present palette data to the color palette memory which in turn saves the time and energy that would be expended to do the write operation.

*Allowable Subject Matter*

4. Claims 2-12 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Relative to claim 2, the major difference between the teachings of the prior art of record (Fujimoto, USP 5,473,348; Matsumoto, USP 5,929,839 and Tanaka et al. 6,320,778) and that of the instant invention is that said prior art of record **does not teach** a display control apparatus wherein at completion of writing the previous palette data to the color palette memory, the first video memory controller retains the previous address data designating the previous palette data in a register, so that the first video memory controller determines whether to replace content of the color palette memory by comparison between the present address data and the previous address data.

Regarding claim 3, the major difference between the teachings of the said prior art of record and that of the instant invention is that said prior art of record **does not teach** a display control apparatus wherein the video memory stores a color palette replacer instruction, so that if the color pallet replacer instruction designate the color palette replacement, the first video memory controller proceeds to replacement of the content of the color palette memory unconditionally regardless of the address data.

Relative to claim 4, the major difference between the teaching of the said prior art of record and that of the instant invention is that said prior art **does not teach** a display control apparatus

Art Unit: 2673

wherein a color palette replace signal generator for generating a color palette replacer signal based on the header data so as to make a determination whether to replace content of the color palette with respect to each of the planes, wherein if the color palette replacer instruction designates color palette replacement, the video memory controller unconditionally replaces previous palette data with present palette data on the color palette memory, while if the color palette replacer instruction does not designate color palette replacement, the video memory controller replaces the previous palette data with the present pallet data on the color palette memory only when a present color palette pointer designating the present palette data differs from a previous color-pallet pointer designating the previous palette data.

As to claim 6, the major difference between the teachings of the said prior art of record and that of the instant invention is that said prior art of record **does not teach** a display control apparatus wherein if the color palette replacer instruction designates the color palette replacement, the first video memory controller proceeds to replacement of the content of the color palette memory unconditionally, regardless of the present or previous address data.

Regarding claim 7, the major difference between the teachings of the said prior art of record and that of the instant invention is that said prior art of record **does not teach** a display control apparatus wherein if the color palette replacer instruction designates the color palette replacement and the bitmap data format indicator indicates the color data includes color codes, the first video memory controller proceeds to replace the content of the color palette memory unconditionally, regardless of a present address data or a previous address data.

### ***Conclusion***

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


U. S. Patent No. 5,559,952 Fujimoto

U. S. Patent No. 5,500,654 Fujimoto

U. S. Patent No. 5,400,334 Hayssen

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

  
BIPIN SHALWALA  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600



Art Unit: 2673

***Responses***

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vincent E Kovalick whose telephone number is 703 306-3020.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:30- 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached on 703 305-4938. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 306-0377.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vincent E. Kovalick". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'V' and 'K'.

Vincent E. Kovalick